

## Claims

1. (cancelled) A hair iron for styling hair comprising: a pair of tong blades, a first tong blade and a second tong blade; an upper barrel having a semicircular cross section comprising a ceramic core enveloped in a metal jacket mounted on the first tong blade and a lower barrel having a semicircular cross section comprising a ceramic core enveloped in a metal jacket mounted on the second tong blade, wherein the upper and lower barrels meet to form an interface for holding hair to be straightened; an upper handle and a lower handle forming a pair of handles; a clip assembly pivotally joining the pair of handles to the pair of tong blades, wherein the first tong blade and upper barrel is integrally formed with the lower handle, wherein the second tong blade and lower barrel is integrally formed with the upper handle.
2. (cancelled) The hair iron of claim 1 wherein the upper barrel has a semicircular cross section comprising a ceramic core enveloped in a metal jacket mounted on the first tong blade and the lower barrel has a semicircular cross section comprising a ceramic core enveloped in a metal jacket mounted on the second tong blade, wherein the upper and lower barrels meet to form a flat interface for holding hair to be straightened.
3. (cancelled) The hair iron of claim 1 further comprising: an upper handle sleeve mounted and rotatably free on the upper handle, wherein the upper handle has a circular uniform cross section receiving the upper handle sleeve; wherein the upper handle sleeve has an annular uniform cross-section, wherein the upper handle sleeve may rotate about the upper handle, wherein the upper handle sleeve axis of rotation parallels the central axis of the upper handle; further comprising a lower handle sleeve mounted and rotatably free on the lower handle, wherein the lower handle has a circular uniform cross section receiving the lower handle sleeve; wherein the lower handle sleeve has an annular uniform cross-section, wherein the lower handle sleeve may rotate about the lower handle, wherein the lower handle sleeve axis of rotation parallels the central axis of the lower handle.
4. (cancelled) The hair iron of claim 1 wherein the ceramic core is solid.
5. (cancelled) A hair iron for curling hair comprising: a pair of tong blades, a first tong blade and a second tong blade; an upper barrel having a circular cross section comprising a ceramic core enveloped in a metal jacket mounted on the first tong blade and a lower

jacket mounted on the second tong blade, wherein the upper barrel and lower blade meet to form a curved interface for holding hair to be straightened; an upper handle and a lower handle forming a pair of handles; a clip assembly pivotally joining the pair of handles to the pair of tong blades, wherein the first tong blade and upper barrel is integrally formed with the lower handle, wherein the second tong blade and lower jacket is integrally formed with the upper handle.

6. (cancelled) The hair iron of claim 5 further comprising: an upper handle sleeve mounted and rotatably free on the upper handle, wherein the upper handle has a circular uniform cross section receiving the upper handle sleeve; wherein the upper handle sleeve has an annular uniform cross-section, wherein the upper handle sleeve may rotate about the upper handle, wherein the upper handle sleeve axis of rotation parallels the central axis of the upper handle; further comprising a lower handle sleeve mounted and rotatably free on the lower handle, wherein the lower handle has a circular uniform cross section receiving the lower handle sleeve; wherein the lower handle sleeve has an annular uniform cross-section, wherein the lower handle sleeve may rotate about the lower handle, wherein the lower handle sleeve axis of rotation parallels the central axis of the lower handle.
7. (cancelled) The hair iron of claim 5 wherein the ceramic core is solid.
8. (currently amended) A hair iron for styling hair comprising: a pair of tong blades, a first tong blade and a second tong blade; a pair of upper barrels, each barrel having a circular cross section comprising a ceramic core enveloped in a metal jacket and mounted on the first tong blade and a lower jacket mounted on the second tong blade shaped with a pair of channels to receive the upper barrel, wherein the upper barrel and lower jacket [blade] meet to form a wavy interface for holding hair to be straightened; an upper handle and a lower handle forming a pair of handles; a clip assembly pivotally joining the pair of handles to the pair of tong blades, wherein the first tong blade and pair of upper barrels is integrally formed with the lower handle, wherein the second tong blade and lower jacket including the pair of channels is integrally formed with the upper handle.
9. (original) The hair iron of claim 8 further comprising: an upper handle sleeve mounted and rotatably free on the upper handle, wherein the upper handle has a circular uniform

cross section receiving the upper handle sleeve; wherein the upper handle sleeve has an annular uniform cross-section, wherein the upper handle sleeve may rotate about the upper handle, wherein the upper handle sleeve axis of rotation parallels the central axis of the upper handle;

further comprising a lower handle sleeve mounted and rotatably free on the lower handle, wherein the lower handle has a circular uniform cross section receiving the lower handle sleeve; wherein the lower handle sleeve has an annular uniform cross-section, wherein the lower handle sleeve may rotate about the lower handle, wherein the lower handle sleeve axis of rotation parallels the central axis of the lower handle.

10. (original) The hair iron of claim 8 wherein the ceramic core is solid.